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#301/B
 4/29/02
 [Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: David J. Schanzlin, et al.
 Filing Date: Herewith
 Serial No.: New Application
 Title: Radial Intrastromal Corneal Insert

Assignee: Addition Technology
 Examiner: TBA
 Group Art Unit: TBA

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST TO DECLARE INTERFERENCE
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.607

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please cancel claims 1 to 5, 11 to 13, 22 to 35 and 41 to 49 and kindly amend the subject application by adding the following claims:

B-1 ⁶⁸ ~~50~~. A method of altering a curvature of a cornea to correct a refractive error, comprising:

making an initial incision through a corneal epithelium or limbus;
 introducing an intrastromal implant radially into the cornea through the initial incision and advancing the implant through a corneal stroma without entering a central optical zone, the implant being shaped to substantially correct the refractive error.

⁶⁹ ~~51~~. The method of claim ⁶⁸ ~~50~~, wherein the implant is an elongated member having a long axis which is advanced radially into the corneal stroma, below a corneal epithelium and Bowman's membrane, through the initial incision in the corneal epithelium or limbus, through which initial incision the long axis of the implant is introduced.

⁷⁰ ~~52~~. The method of claim ⁶⁹ ~~51~~, wherein after introduction through the initial incision, the implant is introduced radially into the incision without interrupting Bowman's membrane, and without entering a central optical zone of the cornea.